

DocID: 2204652

~~TOP SECRET~~

NON
RESPONSIVE

19 Dec
WID

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
31-Aug-2009

DEVELOPMENTS

3. PERU: PRESIDENT TAKING CAUTIOUS APPROACH WITH TERRORISTS

FUJIMORI APPEARS WILLING TO TRY TO END THE STANDOFF PEACEFULLY WITH THE TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MRTA) TERRORISTS HOLDING HOSTAGES AT THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. IN THE PAST FUJIMORI HAS TAKEN A TOUGH BUT PRAGMATIC APPROACH WITH TERRORISTS, //SUGGESTING HE MAY BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE PERSONALLY WITH THEM--A KEY MRTA DEMAND;// HIS BROTHER AND KEY PERUVIAN OFFICIALS ARE HOSTAGES.

--// FUJIMORI PROBABLY HAS CONCLUDED THE PUBLIC WOULD HOLD THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE FOR LOSS OF LIFE AS IT DID IN 1985 DURING A TERRORIST INCIDENT THAT RESULTED IN HEAVY CASUALTIES.//

-- THE PRESIDENT HAS COME UNDER INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO RESOLVE THE CRISIS WITHOUT CASUALTIES //AND MAY ACCEPT OFFERS OF OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

// NONETHELESS, FUJIMORI PROBABLY IS CONCERNED THAT CAVING IN TO THE TERRORISTS' DEMANDS TO RELEASE ITS IMPRISONED MEMBERS MAY ENCOURAGE NEW VIOLENCE THAT WOULD COST HIM POLITICAL SUPPORT.//

-- // HE MAY BE AMENABLE TO GRANTING THE GUERRILLAS' REQUEST FOR SAFE PASSAGE TO THE COUNTRY'S INTERIOR BUT NOT TO MEETING THEIR DEMAND TO BRING ALONG HOSTAGES

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// THE TERRORISTS MAY BE CALCULATING THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE WILL
BUILD ON FUJIMORI TO ACCEDE TO SOME DEMANDS.// SOME HOSTAGES TOLD
JOURNALISTS THAT THE ATTACKERS CLAIM THEY ARE WILLING TO DIE WITH
THEIR CAPTIVES IF THEIR DEMANDS ARE NOT MET

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